

## **Questions about the Personal Mobile Computing Initiative**

### **Updated 08-02-2012**

*Note: All registrations and trademarks should be taken as read.*

#### **The Personal Mobile Computing Device**

##### **What type of personal mobile computing device will students receive?**

Students will receive a 16 GB, iPad® 2 with Wi-Fi capability, as well as a power block, sync cable and protective case.

##### **Do these devices have separate microphone and headphone jacks?**

No. This device has a built-in microphone and a headphone combo jack.

##### **Do these devices have jacks for modems?**

This device does not have an analog port to accommodate a connection via modem and only works with Wi-Fi.

##### **Will parents need to purchase additional items for the iPad?**

No. Necessary applications will be loaded on the iPad by the district.

##### **Should I invest in a wireless keyboard?**

Usually students become faster typists after a few days of practice and do not need a wireless keyboard.

##### **How can I connect to a projector if I need to show something to my class?**

You will connect your device to the projector using the iPad-to-VGA projector cable provided in the classroom by the district.

##### **Can the district's wireless network handle all of these devices?**

Lexington County School District One upgraded its wireless network this summer to increase speed and capacity. Students will be able to access the wireless network to use their personal mobile computing devices.

##### **May family members use the iPad?**

No. The iPad will be setup for the student's profile only.

##### **What if I need to print something at school?**

A print center has been established at the school. Students may print from this center while they are at school.

##### **What if I need to print something at home?**

If students print directly from their iPads at home, they will need an iPad-compatible printer at home.

Or students can email documents to their home computer, go to the district's website at [www.lexington1.net](http://www.lexington1.net), click on the Web Mail link, sign in, retrieve their work and print it.

##### **If my power goes out at home, can I recharge my iPad at school?**

Your school expects you to bring your device to school each day fully charged. If, however, something unexpected happens such as a power outage, you should talk to the help desk at your school.

**What if the iPad stops working at home (after school hours) during the school year?**

If possible, the student should immediately email the Technology Help Desk at [XXXhelpdesk@lexington1.net](mailto:XXXhelpdesk@lexington1.net) (XXX should be your school's initials). That way, the help desk staff will be able to start work on your problem early the next school day.

**What if the iPad stops working at home during the summer?**

If a student has a problem with an iPad over the summer and needs assistance, we provide a help desk at the District Office from 8 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Thursday. The telephone number is 803-821-1187. The email address is [helpdesk@lexington1.net](mailto:helpdesk@lexington1.net).

**Who gets a Personal Mobile Computing Device?**

All high school and middle school students receive personal mobile computing devices once they attend an orientation session with a parent/guardian and complete all the required paperwork.

**Is an iPad mandatory for these students?**

Yes. Students will need the iPad during the school day just as they need textbooks, pencils, pens and other tools now.

Your student may, however, leave the iPad at school each day if you'd rather it wasn't taken home. If left at school, the iPad must be checked in to his school's help desk at the end of each school day and checked out at the beginning of each school day at the same help desk.

**May students keep the devices over summer break?**

Students currently in grades 9–11 will be able to keep their iPads over the summer. We hope that allowing students to use their iPads over the summer will enable them to acquire even greater digital competence — something that will help them next year and in the years to follow.

Students will be able to use interactive applications to improve reading fluency or build mathematics skills. In addition, teachers will electronically provide summer reading lists to students before year end. Parents may then opt to electronically check out those books from the Lexington County Public Library (LCPL) system in pdf or use the Kindle App on the iPad to access a Kindle version. LCPL's website (<http://www.lex.lib.sc.us/default.asp>) has information about this on the Digital Media Catalog page of its website. Look under "Getting Started" on the Digital Media Catalog webpage.

**What happens when a new student comes in? Does he use a loaner?**

The school will assign a device to a new student. It may, however, be a loaner for a period of time.

**If I transfer schools within the district after I receive a mobile computing device, do I take the device with me to my new Lexington One school?**

No. The iPad remains at the school that issued it. You must return the iPad, power block, sync cable and protective case before you transfer to your new school.

## **Questions about personalization of the iPad**

### **May I use my own protective case?**

Yes. If you decide to use your own case, please return the district-provided case to the help desk at your school as soon as you switch cases. Do not wait until the year end when you return the iPad, power block and sync cable.

### **May I decorate my device?**

Your personal mobile computing device is the property of the district, as are textbooks. You may not add stickers or deface it. The protective case, however, has a plastic window that you may use to personalize your iPad.

## **Questions about iPads and the school day**

### **Is there some place besides the cafeteria where I can go during lunch to use my device?**

Yes. There will be designated areas around each school where you can use your device.

### **Will students carry fewer textbooks once they have iPads?**

Yes, over time, as teachers use more digital content for instruction and assignments. Textbook manufacturers will eventually produce more electronic versions of textbooks.

Our district's personal mobile computing initiative isn't about the devices and the replacement of textbooks. In fact, learning, in general, is moving well beyond the textbook.

This initiative is about creating 21st century graduates, individuals who possess the necessary skills to succeed and contribute locally and globally in jobs that may not even currently exist. These students can take charge of their own learning, challenge themselves to stretch their academic abilities, think critically and creatively, problem solve and collaborate.

Many textbook publishers do have textbooks and other supplemental resources such as practice tests online. Students can access these through the Internet.

### **Is the district actively negotiating with publishers so that more are offered electronically, or is there a state or national group doing so on the district's and others' behalf?**

The South Carolina State Department of Education distributes textbooks. We have no authority to negotiate with publishers.

It is our understanding that the textbook office of the SCDOE is piloting a program now at Blythewood High School and some schools in Charleston.

### **What do I do with my device during PE or football practice?**

You should keep your device safe just as you do your textbooks, book bag, purse, wallet, telephone or other items. The PE department is working with school administrators to determine the best place to store iPads for PE students. If you have practice after school or any extracurricular activity, it would be best to lock your iPad in your locker or another safe place.

### **What happens if I have a class at Lexington Technology Center?**

You may take your device with you, lock it in your locker before leaving school or lock it in your vehicle.

**What do I do with my device while I am at lunch?**

You may take your device with you or lock it in your locker before lunch.

**How extensively will the devices be used in regular class work?**

It depends on the learning activities of each day.

Think of the devices as a resource not unlike pencils or notebooks. Some days, students may use them quite a bit in class, working on projects or in teams, researching or problem solving. Other days, students may only use them for recording assignments, completing assignments, and storing or transmitting their work to teachers.

**Questions about the Personal Mobile Computing Device Optional Protection Plan****Is there a cost or fee associated with Personal Mobile Computing?**

No. Parents may opt, however, to participate in an optional Personal Mobile Computing Device Protection Plan. Parents can buy this plan to cover damages incurred to the iPad while it is in the student's possession. The optional plan is \$50 each year and covers the student through the summer.

**What does the Optional Protection Plan cover?**

If the student has the optional protection plan, it covers one personal mobile computing device replacement per school year for theft, loss or accidental damage as well as parts and repair for system-related issues or issues occurring through normal use. Any additional replacement charges will cost the student/parent the Full Market Value of a mobile computing device (approximately \$450).

**Where does the \$50 we pay for the Personal Mobile Computing Device Optional Protection Plan go?**

The money collected at a school stays at that school in a special account created for this purpose. The money will purchase parts for repairs and pay for any outside service to the iPads.

**What if I am unable to pay \$50 right now?**

If the fee creates a financial hardship on the student or his family, that family may contact an administrator at the school and set up a payment plan.

**Will this \$50 be in addition to all of the other fees associated with the regular school year?**

Remember, this is not a fee. It is optional insurance on the device. Parents of athletes, for instance, have the opportunity to purchase optional insurance for their children who participate in athletics.

**In the first year of the Personal Mobile Computing Initiative using iPads, how many or what percentage of lost or broken iPads had to be replaced or fixed?**

About 7,000 iPads (staff and students) were used in our high schools last year. Of those 7,000, 560 needed repairs of some kind and an additional 40 were either lost, stolen or beyond repair.

## **Questions about student safety and/or the district's filter**

### **Can I assume that students will have only safe Internet access and access to sites necessary for educational purposes?**

Yes. The district maintains a multi-tiered security solution that provides the type of protection you mention. The Internet is filtered at all times since we configure each device so that it will stay connected to this service whether the student is at school, home or any other location.

Students are also expected to comply with the district's Acceptable Use Policy, just as they do now when using any technology in the school.

### **May I use Facebook at home?**

Facebook and other sites are blocked since they are not instructional sites approved for student use on the district device. They are blocked through the school server when you use your device at school or at home.

### **May I access Internet email such as Gmail, Yahoo, etc., at school?**

No. You may only use the email system the district has purchased for students' use.

## **Questions about misuse of the iPad**

### **What happens to the information on my device if I have to get it repaired?**

First, each student is responsible for backing up his/her device to the cloud storage, and we encourage them to regularly back up their devices. We also provide a personal drive on our network for student storage.

If students regularly back up their devices, they shouldn't lose any data.

### **If another student knocks over or damages my iPad, am I still responsible?**

Yes. Your device is your responsibility.

### **What if the device is lost, stolen or broken?**

Last year, students took extremely good care of their devices.

If your student's device is lost or stolen, you, the parent/guardian, should report that loss to the school immediately and fill out a police report. The school's School Resource Officer can usually help you do this. If you are out of town, however, you should fill out a police report there.

If your student's device stops working, he/she will get assistance from the Technology Help Desk at his/her school.

If your student's device breaks, the school will investigate. Students are, of course, responsible for the entire cost of repairs to devices intentionally damaged.

### **What are the consequences for misuse or inappropriate use of the iPad?**

These personal mobile computing devices are part of the district's overall technology initiative. As such, the district's Acceptable Use Policy and the school discipline policy apply just as they do for other technology use in the school. In addition, the district has created a Personal Mobile Computing Discipline Plan. You can see that plan [here](#).

## Questions about applications (apps) and music for the iPad

### **What apps come on the device?**

Apps provided by the district are used in class, to work on projects, etc. For that reason, you must leave these district-provided apps on the device.

The following are instructional apps: Pages; Numbers; Keynote; Garage Band; and iMovie.

The following are district setup apps: MobileIron; AnyConnect; iOS Help; and Setup Complete.

Other apps that come on the device are iTunes, Safari, FaceTime; and Photo Booth.

### **Can I delete the apps that came on the device?**

No. The district-provided apps will be used in class, to work on projects, etc. For that reason, you must leave these apps on your device.

### **May I add Dropbox™ to my iPad?**

Students will have the ability to download the free Dropbox application.

### **What should I do about the applications I need for individual courses, e.g., health science?**

District or school staff will load any applications needed for instruction onto your device.

### **May I store my music on the iPad?**

You may store your music as long as you legally purchase the music, your music is in keeping with the district's Acceptable Use Policy and you don't take up space needed for instructional materials.

## Questions about using iPads at home

### **How do I log into LexConnect at home?**

You will use the Safari browser on the iPad to connect to LexConnect just as you could connect to any other site. Then you will use your Lexington One login to get into LexConnect.

### **Will Spanish speakers be able to change the language settings to Spanish?**

Yes. You are able to change the language on the device.

### **May we access our banking information?**

Students should be able to access banking websites. These sites are not blocked for access.

### **In order for my child to be able to successfully complete class assignments, will I be required to have wireless Internet access at home?**

Accessing the Internet at home requires Wi-Fi. Students will, however, be able to accomplish work at home without Wi-Fi. For instance, they will have resources stored on their devices such as ibooks or ebooks. They will also be able to create, save and store projects, papers, assignments, etc., and upload them to network storage when they get to school and have access to Wi-Fi.

Many local businesses and county libraries also have Wi-Fi. In our district, the Gilbert, Lexington and Pelion branches of the Lexington County Public Library system provide Internet access.



## **Questions about funding**

### **How much did the iPads cost?**

Lexington County School District One purchased the original personal mobile computing devices for \$479 each.

We are now getting the iPad2 for \$379. We also purchase a case and apps. With tax, the value per device is now \$450.

### **How is the personal mobile computing initiative funded?**

Lexington One purchased the personal mobile computing devices as part of the 2008 Bond Referendum. Lexington One residents voted to approve the bond referendum, which included \$15 million to expand and upgrade existing technology at all schools.

Along with the iPads, this funding has also provided school security, Smart Boards and sound distribution systems for classrooms, a consistent technology replacement cycle and increased access to online resources as well as network infrastructure, storage and filtering.

### **How much of that \$15 million for technology was specifically for this?**

Lexington County School District One purchased the personal mobile computing devices out of the 2008 Bond Referendum, which included \$15 million to expand and upgrade existing technology at all schools.

This \$15 million in funding has already provided improved school security, Smart Boards and sound distribution systems for classrooms, a consistent technology replacement cycle and increased access to online resources as well as network infrastructure, storage and filtering.

To date, the district has spent approximately \$7.1 million after buying student and faculty iPads for all four high schools and all seven middle schools.

Our high school initiative uses about 7,200 iPads, which includes about 20 loaners at each school.

Our middle school initiative uses another 6,000 iPads.

We also provide 2,180 iPads for middle school and elementary teachers, and for use in elementary schools as classroom sets.

### **Is there money set aside for future purchases of iPads/tablets — either for updates or to replace broken ones?**

Yes. The district has planned for a four-year replacement cycle.

## **End of the year questions**

### **What will happen to old devices once these are upgraded?**

The district will repurpose them for use elsewhere in the district.

### **Will graduating seniors have the opportunity to purchase their devices?**

Yes. In response to parents' requests, graduating seniors are able to purchase their iPads, the five district-provided apps, the original case, power cords, etc. for \$450.

Your student's school will let you know when and where you can buy your student's iPad.

Seniors who do not wish to purchase their iPads will check their devices in to their school's Help Desk at the end of the year.